

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FMAT0501-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2005/002998	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24.02.2005	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 26.02.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H05B33/04 (2006.01), H01H13/02 (2006.01), H01H13/702 (2006.01), H05B33/14 (2006.01), H05B33/28 (2006.01)		
Applicant TOSHIBA MATERIALS CO., LTD.		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																										
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. I</td><td>Basis of the report</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. II</td><td>Priority</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. III</td><td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. IV</td><td>Lack of unity of invention</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. V</td><td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VI</td><td>Certain documents cited</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VII</td><td>Certain defects in the international application</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VIII</td><td>Certain observations on the international application</td></tr></table>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report																								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority																								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability																								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention																								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited																								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application																								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application																								
Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report																									
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer																									
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.																									

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/002998

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):
- ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/002998

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																					
1. Statement	<table><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">Novelty (N)</td><td>Claims</td><td><u>1-15</u></td><td>YES</td></tr><tr><td>Claims</td><td><u></u></td><td>NO</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Inventive step (IS)</td><td>Claims</td><td><u></u></td><td>YES</td></tr><tr><td>Claims</td><td><u>1-15</u></td><td>NO</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Industrial applicability (IA)</td><td>Claims</td><td><u>1-15</u></td><td>YES</td></tr><tr><td>Claims</td><td><u></u></td><td>NO</td></tr></tbody></table>	Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES	Claims	<u></u>	NO	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u></u>	YES	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	NO	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES	Claims	<u></u>	NO
Novelty (N)	Claims		<u>1-15</u>	YES																		
	Claims	<u></u>	NO																			
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u></u>	YES																			
	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	NO																			
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES																			
	Claims	<u></u>	NO																			
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)	<p>Document 1: JP 2002-56737 A (Seiko Precision Inc.), 22 February 2002, paragraphs [0001] to [0020] and fig. 2 & US 2002/0030987 A1</p> <p>Document 2: JP 8-20772 A (Mitsubishi Materials Corp.), 23 January 1996, paragraphs [0004] to [0007], [0012] and [0017] to [0019]</p> <p>Document 3: JP 6-70195 U (Mitsubishi Cable Industries, Ltd.), 30 September 1994, paragraphs [0034] and [0044]</p> <p>Claims 1, 2 and 9 to 15</p> <p>Document 1 cited in the international search report discloses an EL sheet configured from: a light emitting layer (3), which is formed by mixing and stirring zinc sulfide into a binder as a fluorescent material; a transparent conductive film (2), which comprises a transparent conductive polymer; a transparent substrate (1) (which corresponds to the transparent protective film); an insulating layer (4); a back surface electrode layer (5); and an insulating member (6), which is formed upon the back surface electrode layer (5). Furthermore, document 1 cited in the international search report discloses an illuminated switch for use in a portable</p>																					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/002998

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
	<p>information terminal or the like, wherein said EL sheet is disposed between a key operating pad (11), which corresponds to a key top, and a base sheet (7), which comprises a dome-shaped moveable contact and fixed contacts (in particular, refer to fig. 2). Therein, a person skilled in the art could adjust the thickness of the transparent substrate (1), as appropriate. Such being the case, the inventions set forth in claims 1, 2 and 9 to 15 do not involve an inventive step.</p> <p>Claims 3, 4 and 8</p> <p>Given the disclosures in document 2 cited in the international search report, a person skilled in the art could adjust the average particle diameter and/or the particle size distribution of the EL fluorescent particles, as appropriate. Such being the case, the inventions set forth in claims 3, 4 and 8 do not involve an inventive step.</p> <p>Claims 5 to 7</p> <p>Document 3 cited in the international search report discloses a configuration wherein an 0.2 μm-thick SiO_2 layer is provided around the outer periphery of the fluorescent substance as a moisture-shielding film. Such being the case, the inventions set forth in claims 5 to 7 do not involve an inventive step.</p>